

IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered). Please AMEND claims 1, 11, and 21-28 and CANCEL claim 3, without prejudice or disclaimer, in accordance with the following:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An electronic apparatus comprising:

a transmitter transmitting electronic mail in which a symbol including image information, which enables a sender to be specified therefrom, is included within an electronic signature file of the electronic mail, said electronic signature file including an email address of the sender, wherein said transmitter transmits the electronic mail only when an error, between the image information and prestored image information, is within a predetermined range.

2. (ORIGINAL) The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising: a generator generating the image information by inputting an image of the sender.

3. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said transmitter transmits the electronic mail only when an error, between the image information generated by said generator and prestored image information, is within a predetermined range.

4. (ORIGINAL) The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the image information includes an image related to at least a face of the sender.

5. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising:

an adding unit adding to the electronic signature file a parameter which indicates an importance of the electronic mail.

6. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein the parameter indicates the importance of the electronic mail by a display format of the

electronic signature file.

7. (ORIGINAL) The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein the parameter includes information which indicates a display priority order of the electronic mail.

8. (ORIGINAL) The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein the parameter includes character, image and/or audio information indicating a summary of the electronic mail.

9. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein the information which indicates the display priority order of the electronic mail includes at least one of a display position and a display timing of the electronic signature file.

10. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the symbol includes information affording linking to the sender.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An electronic apparatus comprising:
a receiver receiving electronic mail in which a symbol including image information which enables a sender to be specified therefrom is included within an electronic signature file of the electronic mail, said electronic signature file including an email address of the sender; and
a display unit displaying the image information of the electronic mail, wherein said receiver receives the electronic mail only when an error, between the image information and prestored image information, is within a predetermined range.

12. (ORIGINAL) The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the image information includes an image related to at least a face of the sender.

13. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the electronic signature file further includes a parameter which indicates an importance of the electronic mail, and further comprising:

a recognizing unit recognizing the importance based on the parameter.

14. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein said receiver receives information which indicates an importance of the electronic

signature file, and further comprising:

a display controller displaying, based on the information which indicates the importance of the electronic signature file, the electronic signature file on said display unit with a format which enables recognition of the importance.

15. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 14, wherein the information which indicates the importance of the signature information is included within the electronic signature file.

16. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein said receiver receives information which indicates a display priority order of the electronic signature file, and further comprising:

a determining unit determining a display position of the electronic signature file based on the information which indicates the display priority order of the electronic signature file.

17. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein said receiver receives information which indicates a display priority order of the electronic signature file, and further comprising:

a determining unit determining a display timing of the electronic signature file based on the information which indicates the display priority order of the electronic signature file.

18. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 17, wherein the information which indicates the display priority order of the electronic signature file is included within the electronic signature file.

19. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the electronic signature file includes character, image and/or audio information indicating a summary of the electronic mail.

20. (ORIGINAL) The electronic apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein the symbol includes information used for linking to the sender.

21. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An electronic apparatus comprising:
a receiver receiving an electronic mail including at least an electronic signature file and

information which indicates an importance thereof, said electronic signature file including an email address of a sender and a symbol including image information which enables the sender to be specified therefrom;

a display unit displaying the electronic mail; and

a display controller displaying the signature information on said display unit with a format which enables recognition of the importance, based on the information which indicates the importance, wherein said receiver receives the electronic mail only when an error, between the image information and prestored image information, is within a predetermined range.

22. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An electronic apparatus comprising:

a transmitter transmitting an electronic mail by adding to an electronic signature file of the electronic mail a parameter which indicates an importance of the electronic mail, said electronic signature file including an email address of a sender and a symbol including image information which enables a sender to be specified therefrom, wherein said transmitter transmits the electronic mail only when an error, between the image information and prestored image information, is within a predetermined range.

23. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A control apparatus for an electronic apparatus having a transmitter, comprising:

a controller controlling the transmitter to transmit electronic mail in which a symbol including image information which enables a sender to be specified therefrom is included within an electronic signature file of the electronic mail, said electronic signature file including an email address of the sender, wherein said transmitter transmits the electronic mail only when an error, between the image information and prestored image information, is within a predetermined range.

24. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A control apparatus for an electronic apparatus having a receiver receiving an electronic mail and a display unit displaying the received electronic mail, comprising:

a controller controlling said receiver to receive an electronic mail in which a symbol including image information which enables a sender to be specified therefrom is included within an electronic signature file of the electronic mail, and controlling said display unit to display the image information of the electronic mail, said electronic signature file including an email address of the sender, wherein said receiver receives the electronic mail only when an error, between the

image information and prestored image information, is within a predetermined range.

25. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A control apparatus for an electronic apparatus having comprising:

a receiver receiving electronic mail including at least an electronic signature file and information which indicates an importance thereof and a display unit displaying the received electronic mail, comprising:; and

a display controller controlling said display unit to display the electronic signature file with a format which enables recognition of the importance, based on the information which indicates the importance, said electronic signature file including an email address of a sender and a symbol including image information which enables the sender to be specified therefrom, wherein said receiver receives the electronic mail only when an error, between the image information and prestored image information, is within a predetermined range.

26. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable storage medium which stores a program for causing a computer to have an electronic mail function, comprising:

a transmitting section causing the computer to transmit electronic mail in which a symbol including image information which enables a sender to be specified therefrom is included within an electronic signature file of the electronic mail, said electronic signature file including an email address of the sender, wherein said transmitting section causes the computer to transmit the electronic mail only when an error, between the image information and prestored image information, is within a predetermined range.

27. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable storage medium which stores a program for causing a computer to have an electronic mail function, comprising:

a receiving section causing the computer to receive an electronic mail in which a symbol including image information which enables a sender to be specified therefrom is included within an electronic signature file of the electronic mail, said electronic signature file including an email address of the sender; and

a display section causing the computer to display the image information of the electronic mail, wherein said receiving section causes the computer to receive the electronic mail only when an error, between the image information and prestored image information, is within a predetermined range.

28. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable storage medium as which stores a program for causing a computer to have an electronic mail function, comprising:

a receiving section causing the computer to receive electronic mail including at least an electronic signature file and information which indicates an importance thereof, said electronic signature file including an email address of a sender and a symbol including image information which enables the sender to be specified therefrom;

a display section causing the computer to display the electronic mail; and

a display control section causing the computer to display the electronic signature file by said display section with a format which enables recognition of the importance, based on the information which indicates the importance, wherein said receiving section causes the computer to receive the electronic mail only when an error, between the image information and prestored image information, is within a predetermined range.
